Government pensioners after twelve years instead of fifteen years;

(b) if so, whether this was accepted;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether Government would review this decision to give relief to the pensioners in 1999 which is being observed as the Year of Senior Citizens; and

(d) if so, by when the orders are likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The recommendation of the Pay Commission relating to restoration of commuted portion of pension after 12 years was not accepted by the Government. In view of a large number of representations received in this context, the matter is being examined having regard to all the relevant factors.

LPG Distributorship in Himachal Pradesh

*124. SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI: Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some proposals to set up 22 LPG distributorships in Himachal Pradesh are pending with the Ministry since March, 1995.

(b) whether some more proposals to set up 15 LPG distributorships in Himachal Pradesh are also pending with the Ministry since July, 1997;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to take some action on these proposals; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY): (a) to (e) Requests are received from time to time from different States of the country including Himachal Pradesh for setting up more LPG distributorships. The locations found economically viable and feasible are included in the marketing Plan for selection of LPG distributors through prescribed selection procedure. In Himachal Pradesh, for eco-fragile areas, Government has been allotting LPG distributorship and extension points direct to the Himachal Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation. Of the 37 locations recommended by Government of Himachal Pradesh, one location Kilar, Distt. Chamba has reportedly no motorable road and therefore, not feasible. All other locations are already having either extension points or are covered under the area of operation of the existing LPG distributorship and therefore, getting LPG supply. Of these, after survey, 15 locations have been found feasible and included in the Marketing Plans for independent distributorships to be allotted to individuals and others as per Government policy. The details of all locations are given in the enclosed statement (*See* below). Some of the 15 locations for independent distributorships have already been advertised and selection process for appointment of distributors is in progress.

Statement

Details of Locations

Locations having Extension Point/served by existing Distributor			Locations already getting Supplies and included in the Marketing Plan for opening of independent LPG Distributorships		
S.No.	Location	District	S.No.	Location	District
1.	Sangarh	Simmour	1.	Droh	Kangra
2.	Nagari	Kangra	2.	Bharanj	Hamirpur
3.	Chintapurni	Una	3.	Banjar	Kulu
4.	Tissa	Chamba	4.	Bhuntar	Kulu
5.	Chowri	Chamba	5.	Lahroo (Jaisinghpur)	Kangra
6.	Baddi	Solan	6.	Nagrota Surian	Kangra
7.	Ghaghas	Bilaspur	7.	Dadasiva	Kangra
8.	Darlaghat	Solan	8.	Jawali	Kangra
9.	Kasumptee	Shimla	9.	Mandi(II)	Mandi
10.	Ani	Kulu	10.	Nerchowk	Mandi
11.	Nankhari	Shimla	11.	Bangana	Una
12.	Gagret	Una	12.	Nadaun	Hamirpur
13.	Shillai	Sirmour	13.	Gohar	Mandi
14.	Sri Naina Devi	Bilaspur	14.	Kotkhai	Shimla
15.	Salooni	Chamba	15.	Daulatpur Chowk	Una
16.	Jawalaji	Kangra			
17.	Sandhol	Mandi			
18.	Chirgaon	Shimla			
19.	Jubbal	Shimla			
20.	Newa	Shimla			
21.	Sarhan	Shimla			

Threat to the Villagers of Jaduguda from Untreated Effluents

*125. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a number of villagers of jadugoda, which has some of the finest resources of uranium ore, have been killed or crippled by untreated effluent and pollution from the mining facilities;

(b) whether steps have been taken to hold the officials of UCIL responsible for this negligence; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to see that radiation related diseases like cancer, do not affect the poor villagers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) No villager of Jaduguda or around has been affected by effluent or pollution from the Uranium mining or other activities of the Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. (UCIL), a Public Sector Undertaking of the Department of Atomic Energy, which operates Uranium mining and milling facilities in the area.

(b) Does not arise.